Descriptive Atlas

OF

WESTERN CANADA

Showing Maps of the Provinces of

Manitoba and British Columbia

And Districts of

ASSINIBOIA, ALBERTA, AND SASKATCHEWAN,

ALSO OF

The World and the Dominion of Canada.

Issued by Authority of

HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Minister of the Interior,

OTTAWA, CANADA. 1899.

TRADE CENTERS OF CANADA.

PRACTICALLY AN INDEPENDENT NATION.

The Dominion of Canada comprises all that portion of the continent of North America north of the United States except Alaska and Newfoundland and the coast of Labrador. Canada is entirely self-governing and self-maintaining, and is not called upon to pay any taxes whatever to the mother country, its connection with Great Britain being the mother country, its connection with Great Britain being almost wholly a matter of loyalty and affection. It consists (1) of seven provinces: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, and British Columbia, which in their self-governing powers and their relation to the general government correspond very closely to the different States in the American Union, excepting that for all local laws they are practically self-governing; (2) of four territories, Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Athabasca, which correspond somewhat to the American territories; (3) of four other territories, Ungava, Franklin, Mackenzie, and Yukon, which are administered by the general government; and (4) the district of Keewatin, which is under the jurisdiction of the lieutenant-governor of Manitoba. The capital of the whole dominion is Ottawa. Each province and the territories of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, joined together, have their own heads of government. The total population of the Northwest Territories is now about 125,000 souls; area, 2,497,427 square miles.

Size, Soil, Climate, and Population.

The area of Canada figures up to 3,456,000 square miles, which is almost 500,000 square miles more than the total area of the United States, exclusive of Alaska, and not far short of being equal to the area of all Europe. About 150,000 square miles of this area is taken up by lakes and rivers; when all the necessary allowances have been made there still remains in Canada an immense area with soil fertile enough and climate favorable enough for all the purposes of a highly civilized population. A prominent American journalist, who recently made a trip through Western Canada, says:

"The members of the Press Association made the acquaintance of the Canadians of the Northwest and learned something of the vast extent of their territory and of its great resources, which are destined to make it our most formid-

quaintance of the Canadians of the Northwest and learned something of the vast extent of their territory and of its great resources, which are destined to make it our most formidable commercial competitor in the world's markets for the sale of agricultural products. We learned that the Northwest Territory of Canada, instead of being a barren waste as taught by our geographies of a quarter of a century ago, is capable of sustaining an empire of 50,000,000 of people. Over 900,00) square miles of the Dominion of Canada are already occupied, and of the occupied area fully one-half has been 'improved.' The older provinces are, acre for acre, as suitable for agricultural pursuits as is the land in any other portion of the known world. Manitoba, the prairie province, is almost one vast wheat field, with its productivity unequaled anywhere. The No. 1 hard wheat grown there is unsurpassed; the average yield per acre is very high, being anywhere from 18 to 40 bushels, and even higher yields are very frequently known. It generally brings from 5 to 10 cents per bushel more than the wheat grown in the more southern latitudes, on account of its quality. British Columbia is a land of almost infinite possibilities, not only because of its mineral and timber resources, but also because of its capabilities for agriculture and fruit growing. The territories are so vast an area, that no general description of them is possible, but it may be said that the great wheat valley of the Saskatchewan, the sheltered grazing country of Alberta, and the great wheat plains of the Peace River Valley in Athabasca are regions adapted in soil and climate to sustain a hardy and vigorous people." Within the past few years, there has been a wonderful immigration into the territories as well as into British Columbia and Manitoba. As railways are projected and constructed, the settlement is crowding to the front. Many of these also who are taking up these lands—the free homestead lands of Western Canada—are ex-Canadians who have resided some tims in t tion. Many of these also who are taking up these lands—
the free homestead lands of Western Canada—are ex-Canadians. Canadians who have resided some time in the
United States. Their attention is now being directed to
newer Canada or Western Canada, the term by which it is
familiarly known. familiarly known.

Canada's Forest Wealth.

Canada, like all new countries, depends for her prosperity upon the development and exportation of her natural products. These are of four great classes: (1) the products of her forests; (2) the products of her mines; (3) the products of her fisheries; (4) her agricultural products. Canada's forest resources, when both extent and quality are considered, are the finest in the world. The forest area uncut in 1891 was nearly 1,250,000 square miles, or more than one-third of the area of the whole country. The annual value of the timber and lumber produced is about \$82,500,100. The annual value of the timber and lumber exported is about \$32,000,000. Two-thirds of this goes to Great Britain and over \$9,000,000 in lumber and logs to the United States. Quebec and Ontario have unlimited supplies of spruce for wood pulp manufacture, the annual Canada, like all new countries, depends for her prosoutput of which reaches 200,000 tons. The uncut lumber of British Columbia, which includes Douglas pine, Menzies, fir, spruce, red and yellow cedar, and hemlock, is estimated to be 100,000,000,000 cubic feet.

Canada's Mineral Resources

Canada is just beginning to realize the largeness of her mineral resources. The much-talked of gold mines are those of the Klondike district, the extent of which are still those of the Klondike district, the extent of which are still uncertain, but which promise enormously. Much more definitely known and almost as productive are the gold mines of British Columbia and the newly discovered gold fields of Rainy River district in Northern Ontario. Fully as important as the gold mines in Canada are its coal fields. These are principally in Nova Scotia, the Canadian Territories, and British Columbia. The latter province is destined to be the coal supplying region of the whole Pacific Coast of North America. The yearly output at present is about 1,000,000 tons; the yearly output of Nova Scotia is about 2,500,000 tons. In Alberta there are coal fields having an area of 65,000 square miles while that in Manitoba is about 15,000 square miles, Assiniboia also having most extensive coal fields. The quantity of coal underlying portions of this area is estimated at from 4,500,000 to 9,000,000 tons per square mile, part of it lignite and part bituminous. There are large deposits of anthracite in the Rocky Mountains, so that with low freight rates to the settled districts of the Northwest, and cheap coal at the mine's mouth, the of the Northwest, and cheap coal at the mine's mouth, the fuel question of Western Canada is solved, without making use of the large wooded districts. Iron is found in abundance in both British Columbia and Ontario. Ontario has in its nickel mines of Sudbury a mineral treasure scarcely to be found elsewhere on the continent. Experts have estimated that 650,000,000 tons of this ore is actually in sight. Ontario produces petroleum and salt. Silver, copper, lead, asbestos, plumbago, mica, etc., are found in varying quantities.

Canada's Fisheries.

The fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and of the shallow waters bordering on Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have for centuries been the most productive in the world. The Canadian fishing interest in these waters is very great. Cod, mackerel, haddock, halibut, herring, smelts, and salmon are the principal fish, and the annual "take" is over \$20,000,000. About \$2,500,000 worth of white fish, salmon, trout, herring, pickerel, and sturgeon are produced annually from the Canadian lakes. The salmon fishing of the rivers and great sea inlets of British Columbia brings about \$4,500,000 annually. About one-half of the total product is exported to Great Britain and the United States.

Canada's Agricultural Produce.

Agriculture, including stock raising, dairying, and fruit growing, is Canada's greatest industry. Over 23,000,000 acres are under crop, and about 20,000,000 under pasture. Over 3,000,000 acres are under wheat cultivation. Ontario exports more than twice as much cheese as the whole of the United States, and her cheese product is recognized as the finest in the world. Canada exports to Great Britain alone \$15,000,000 worth of cheese annually. In 1896, in Ontario alone, 170 creameries turned out over 6,000,000 rounds of butter at the progress of 181. pounds of butter at an average net receipt of 18½ cents a pound. By the cold storage facilities provided by the government, Canadian butter can be sent even from far inland points to Liverpool or London without the slightest deterioration. England buys \$6,000,000 worth of Canadian deterioration. England buys \$6,000,000 worth of Canadian bacon and hams annually, and Canadian beef is already famous on the London market. A great deal of Eastern and Southern Canada is well adapted to fruit raising. The Niagara-St. Clair Peninsula of Ontario is especially famous for its peaches and grapes. As to the capabilities of Canada as a grain-producing country, the statisties show that in all cereals it occupies a most important position, the wheat of Western Canada commanding several cents per bushel higher price on the world's markets than any other wheat. (Elsewhere figures are given showing average yields of wheat, and other grains, roots, vegetables, etc.) Stock raising is an industry that is most profitable, and in the newer districts the attention of the farmers is being directed toward this branch of agriculture with excellent results. toward this branch of agriculture with excellent results.

Canada's Trade with the United States.

Canada has made a great effort in the direction of encouraging home manufactures. Her most progressive and most staple industries are those concerned in the conversion of the raw products of the country into articles of common merchandise. Her steam horse-power in proportion to population is the largest in the world. The capital invested in factories as a whole amounts to over \$400,000,000, with an annual output of over \$500,000,000. Her total annual importation is now about \$115,000,000; more than half of this is from the United States. Canada's total exportation is about \$125,000,000; of this over one-third goes to the United States. Canada's total trade with the United States is about 41 per cent of her total trade with all countries, and almost equal to her total trade with Great Britain,

Canadian Cities.

Montreal (250,000) is the commercial metropolis of nada. It is situated on an island in the St Lawrence Montreal (250,000) is the commercial metropolis of Canada. It is situated on an island in the St Lawrence River, and, though a thousand miles from the open ocean, the largest sea-going vessels reach its wharves with ease. It is the headquarters of Canada's two great railways—the Canadian Pacific system with its \$,000 miles of road, and the Grand Trunk system with its 5,000 miles of road. Through passenger trains run from Montreal to Vancouver, on the Pacific Coast, a distance of nearly 3,000 miles. Montreal is the center also of the great inland navigation system of Canada.

Toronto (200,000), the capital of the province of Ontario, is the second city of Canada. While Toronto has a great local trade and many important manufactures, it is especially noted as an educational center. Quebec (80,000) is the oldest city of Canada, and one of the oldest upon the continent. Halifax (50,000), the eastern terminus of the Canadian railway system, has one of the finest harbors in the world. Winnipeg (85,000) is destined to be the center of the great inland trade of Canada. Vancouver and Victoria are known as the coast cities, and are most progressive.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Dominion as a Whole and the Provinces and Territories.

Territories.

The system of government established in Canada under the Union Act of 1867 is a federal union, having a general or central government controlling matters essential to the general development, the permanency, and the unity of the whole Dominion; and a number of local or provincial Governments, having the control and management of certain matters naturally and conveniently falling within their defined jurisdiction; while each government is administered in accordance with the British system of parliamentary institutions. Representatives to these governments are elected by the people, the House of Commons, or Federal Government now consisting of 213 members; the number of representatives in the local or provincial government varying according to the size of the province.

Having no standing army to keep up, the people of Canada are in the happy position of being left free to devote their time and means to peaceful development of the resources of their country, and nowhere in the world are "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" more secure and untrammeled, or taxation lighter or more equitable.

PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES OF THE DOMINION.

Nova Scotia, population, 450,396; area, 20,000 square miles. New Brunswick, population, 321,263; area, 28,200. Prince Edward Island, population, 109,078; area, 2,000. Quebec, population, 1,488,535; area, 228,900. Ontario, population, 2,114,321; area, 222,000. Manitoba, population, 152,506; area, 116,021. British Columbia, population, 98,173; area, 407,300.

98,173; area, 407,500.

EXECUTIVE POWER.—In all these provinces there is a lieutenant-governor appointed for five years by the governor-general of the Dominion in council, and aided by an executive council of eight or less members, who have seats in the legislature and are responsible to the popular house in accordance with the principles of English resulting and the responsibility of the popular house in accordance with the principles of English resulting and the responsibility.

have seats in the legislature and are responsible to the popular house in accordance with the principles of English parliamentary government.

Legislative Power and Local Government.—In Nova Scotia and Quebec there is a legislative council of 20 and 24 members respectively, appointed by the lieutenant-governor in council of each province. The assembly in these provinces consist of 38 and 73 members respectively, elected for four years in Nova Scotia, and for five years in Quebec, on a limited franchise based on property and income. In the five other provinces there is only one house, an elected assembly, viz.: Ontario, 94 members; New Brunswick, 41; Prince Edward Island, 30; Manitoba, 40; British Columbia, 33. In all these provinces there is manhood suffrage, limited by residence and citizenship, but in Prince Edward Island 15 are elected on a special real estate qualification. In all of these provinces the duration of the assembly is four years, unless sooner dissolved. Sessions are annual. In both houses members are paid. Members require no property qualification. The legislative powers of the legislatures are defined by the British North America Act of 1867. Widows and unmarried women, when taxed, can vote at municipal elections in Ontario and the Northwest Territories. In Manitoba and British Columbia all women who are taxed in their own right can vote at such elections.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

Divided into districts, viz: Alberta, Assinibola, Athabasea, Saskatchewan, with representative but not responsible government. In addition to these partially settled and organized districts, the following divisions have also been made in the unsettled region: Franklin, Keewatin, Mackenzie, Ungava, and Yukon. The total population of the Northwest Territories is now about 120,000 souls; area, 2,497,427 square miles.

DESCRIPTIVE ATLAS

OF

WESTERN CANADA



Showing Maps of the Provinces of

MANITOBA

British Columbia

AND

DISTRICTS OF-

Assiniboia Alberta and Saskatchewan

Threshing Scene, Western Canada.

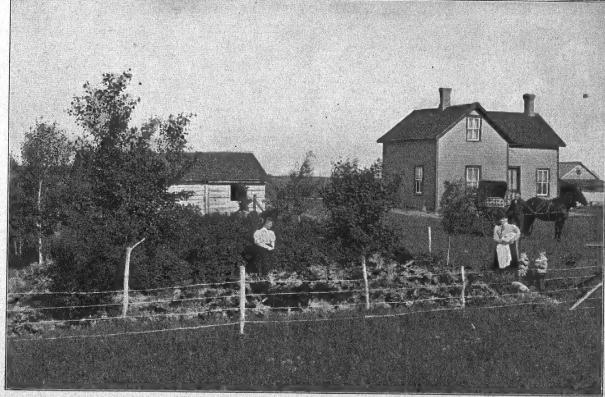
ALSO OF

THE WORLD AND THE DOMINION OF CANADA

a) [6a] [6a] [6

(Populations as given are taken from the figures published in the last census returns. Since then there has been a steady increase in population.)

<u>alleallealle</u>



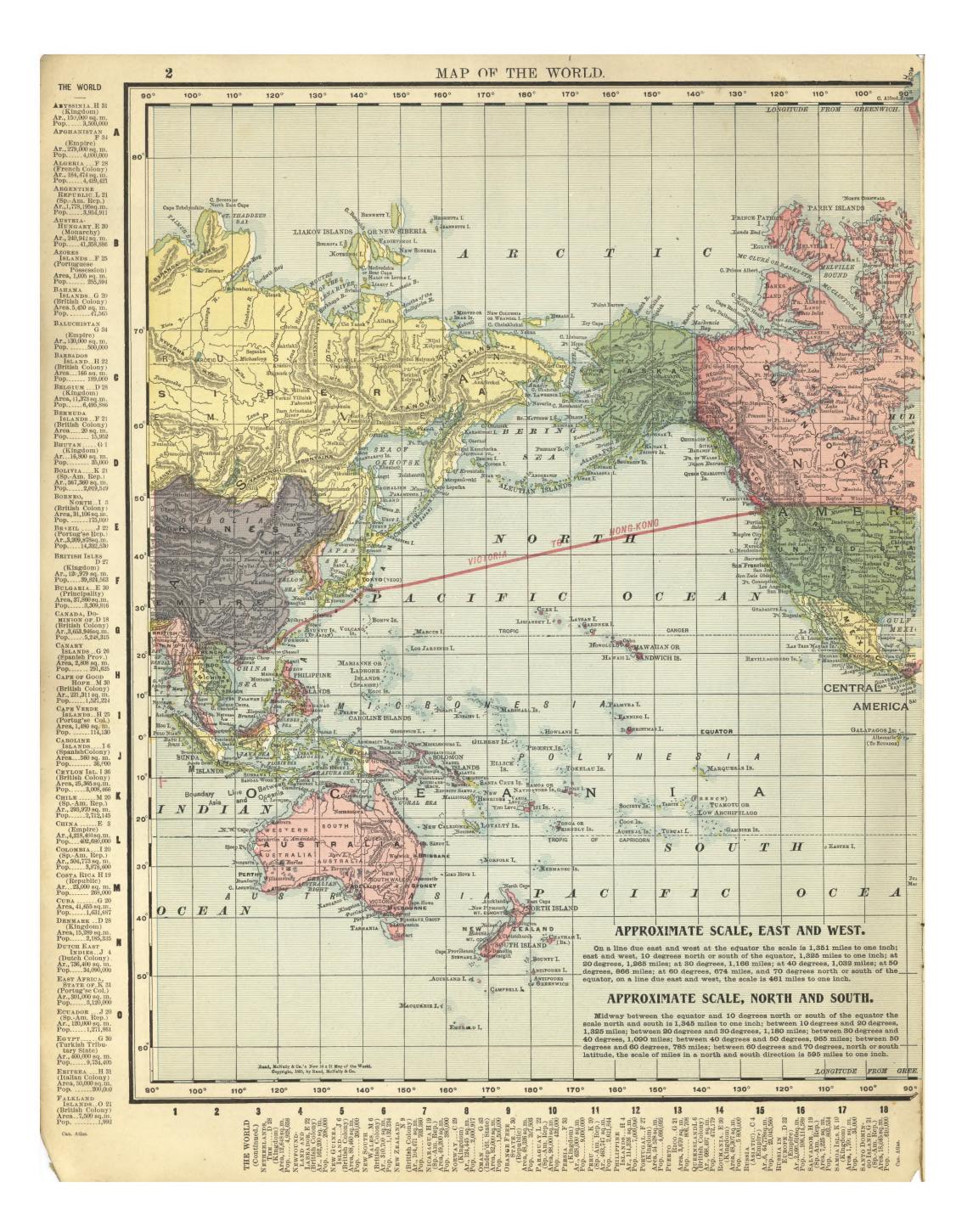
James Duncan's Farm, Delea

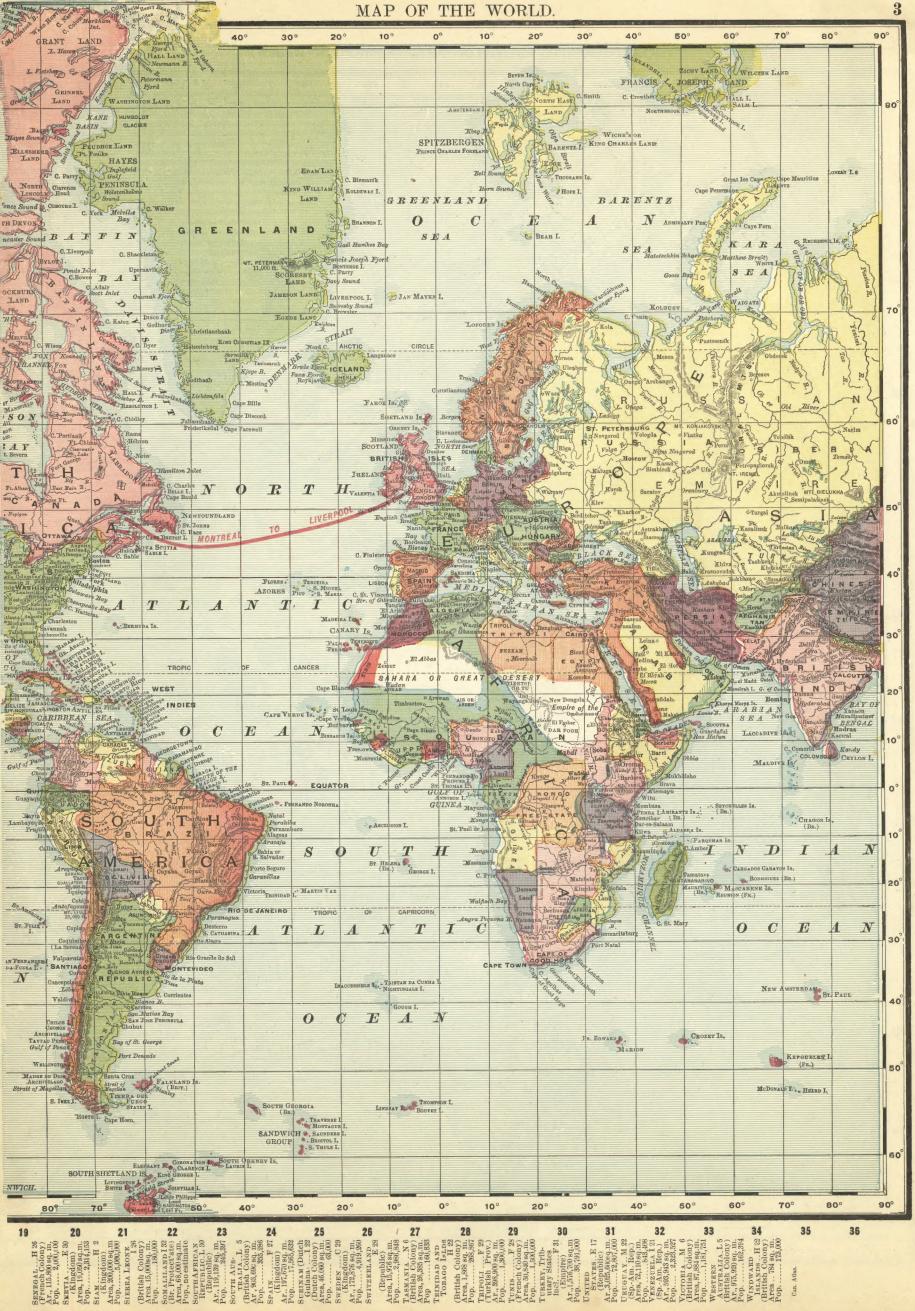


Harvest Scene, Western Canada.



Issued by authority of HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON, M. P., Minister of the Interior, Canada.





GUADELOUPE
AND DEPENDENCIES. H 21
(French Colony)
Area. .688 sq m.
Pop...... 167,000
GUATEMALA H18
(Sp.-Am. Rep.)
Area. .63,40 sq.m.
Pop..... 1,364,673
GUIANA, BRIT18H.... I 22
(British Colony)
Ar., 109,000 sq.m.
Pop..... 285,315

HONDURAS,
BRITISH. ... H 19
(British Colony)
Area, 7,562 sq. m.
Pop. ... 33,811
HONGKONG. G 3
(British Colony)
Area ... 29 sq. m.
Pop. ... 221,441
ICELAND. ... C 26
(Danish Colony)
Area, 39,756 sq. m.
Pop. ... 70,927
INDIA,
BRITISH. G 35

BRITISH. G 85
(Empire)
Ar., 964,993 sq. m.
Pop.... 221,12,952
ITALY E 29
(Kingdom)
Ar., 110,646 sq. m.
Pop.... 31,290,490
JAMAIOA. ... H 20
WITH TURKS
AND CAICOS
ISLANDS.
(British Colony)
Area, 4,424 sq. m.
Pop.... 693,865
JAPAN F 6

MADAGASCAR
(French Colony)
Ar., 228,500 sq.m.
Pop. ... 3,500,000
MADEIRA
ISLANDS. F 26
(Portuguese
Possession)
Area... 505 sq.m.
Pop. ... 134,040
MAHE.... H 35
(Fr.Dependen'y)
Area... 26 sq. m.
Pop. ... 8,911
MARIANNE

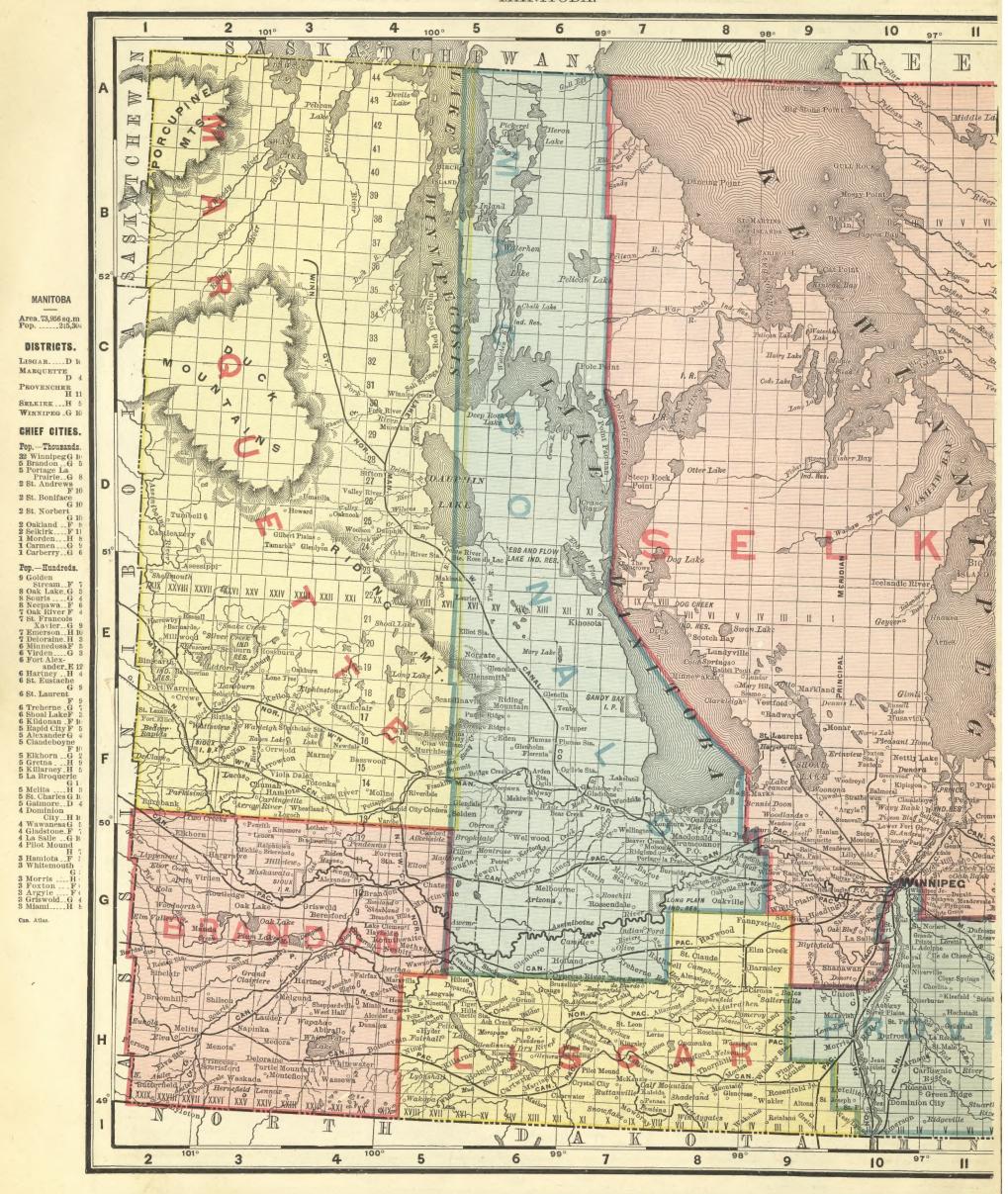
POP. 183,040
MAHE ... H 35
(Fr. Dependen'y)
Area... 26 sq. m.
Pop. 8,911
MARIANNE
1SLANDS... H 6
(SpanishColony)
Area... 420 sq. m.
Pop. 10,172
MARTINIQUE
[SLAND... H 22
(French Colony)
Area... 381 sq. m.
Pop. 187,692
MEXICO ... G 17
(Sp.-Am. Rep.)
Ar., 767,605 sq. m.
Pop. ... 12,578,861

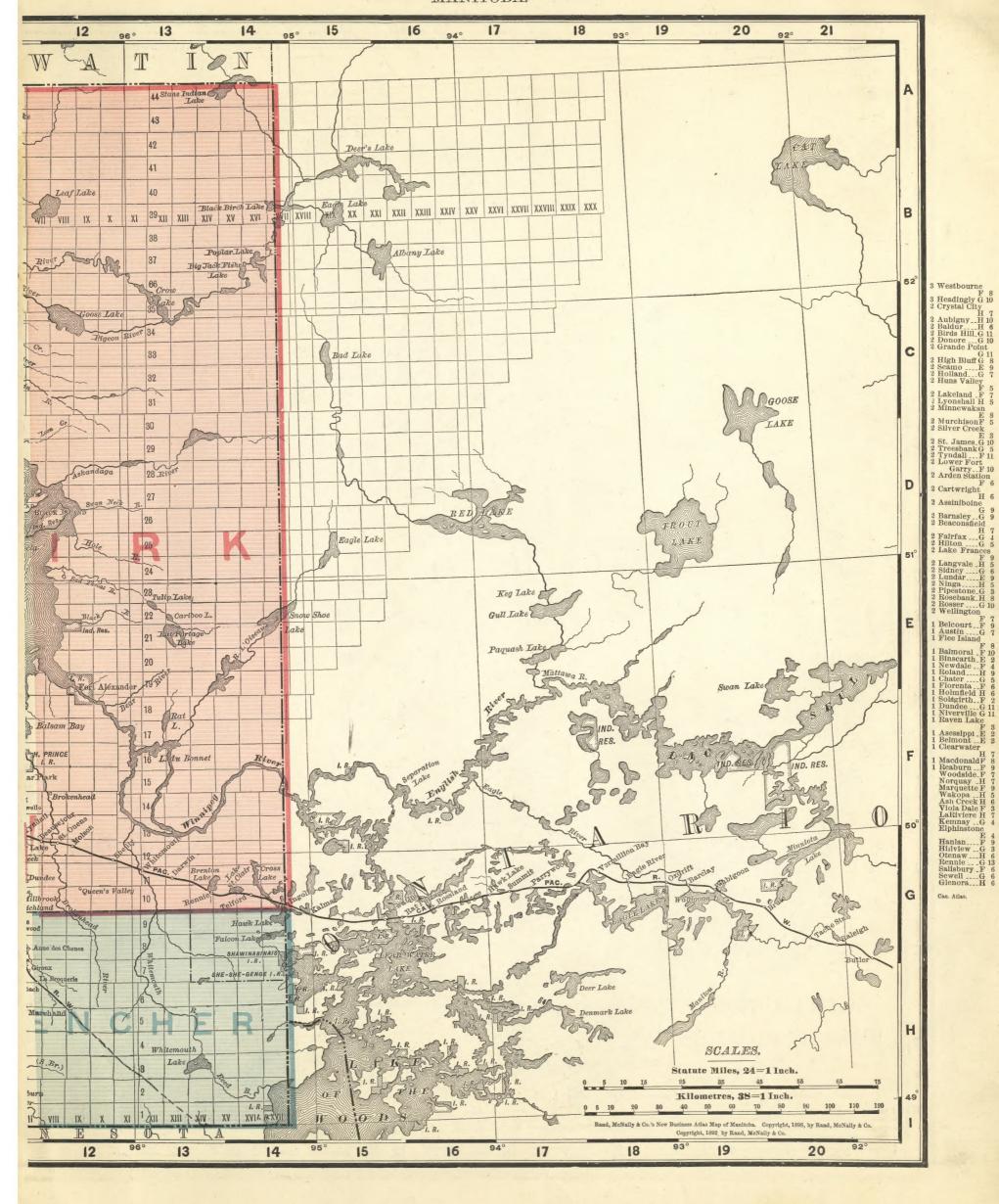
(Sp.-Am. Rep.)
Ar., 767,005 sq.m.
Pop.... 12,578,861
MONTENEGRO
E 29
(Principality)
Area... 3,630 sq. m.
Pop.... 288,000
MOROGCO... F 27
(Empire)
Ar., 219,000 sq.m.
Pop.... 5,000,000
NEFAL.... G 36
(Kingdom)
Area, 54,0 0 sq.m.
Pop... 2,000,000

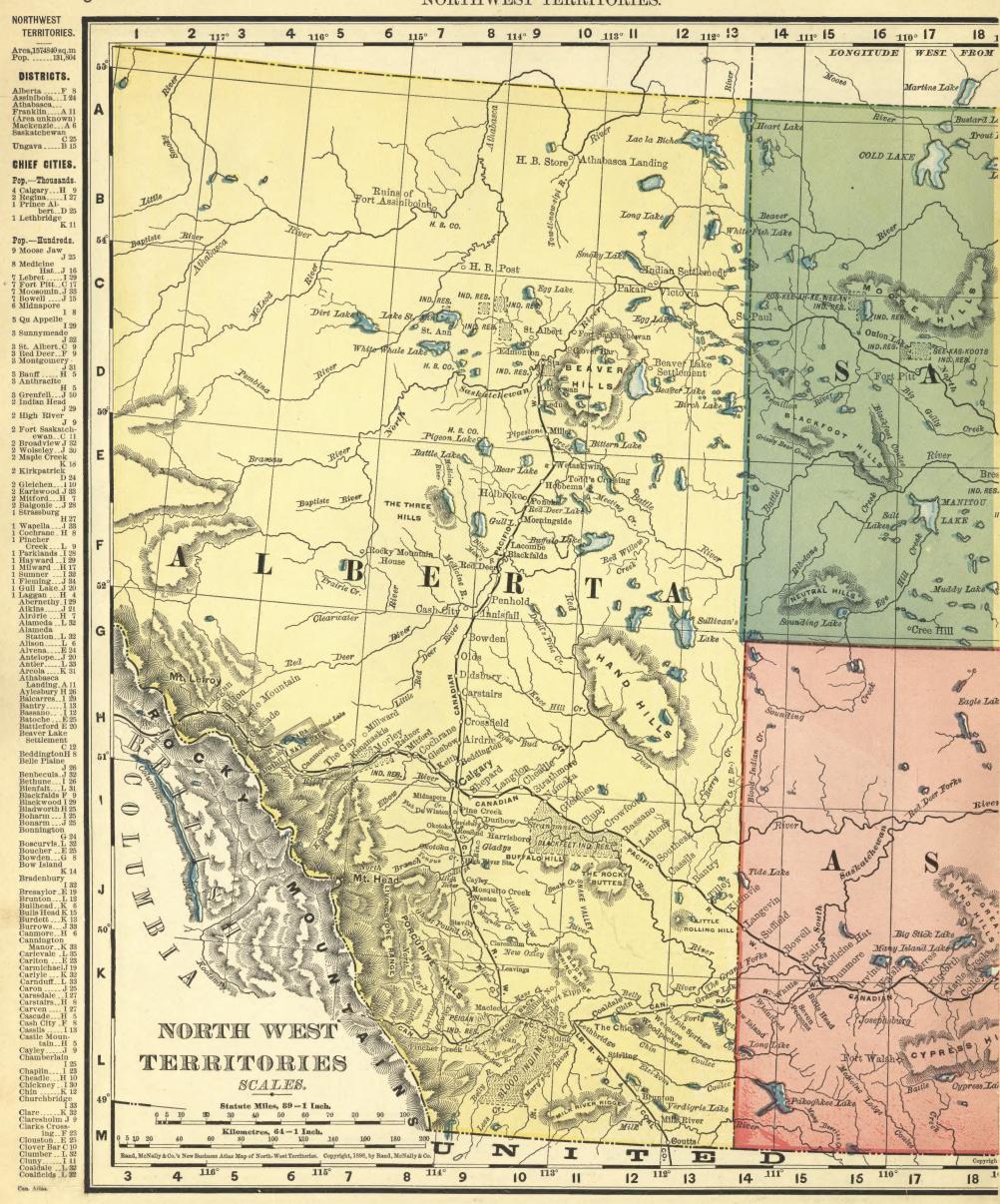
Can. Atlas

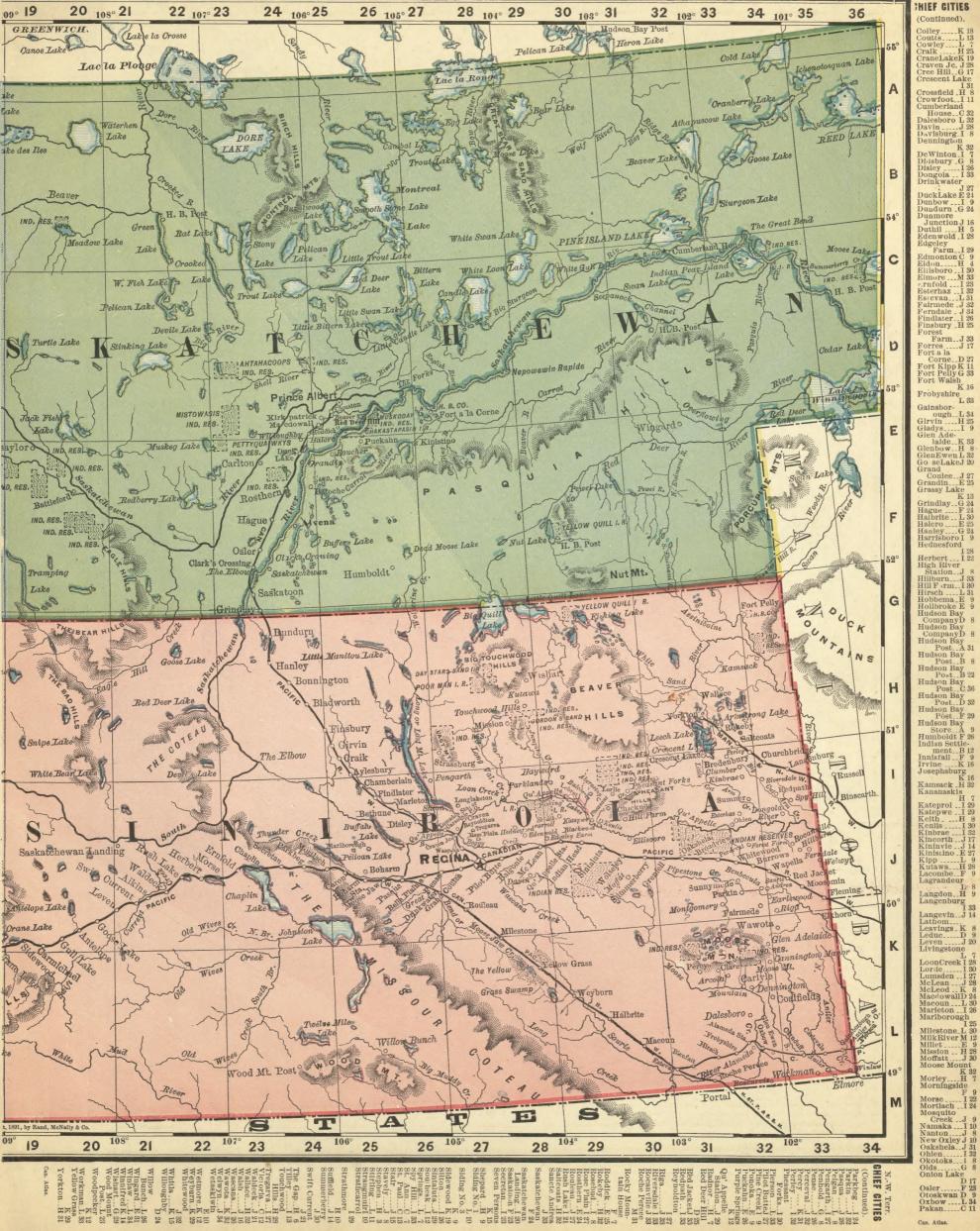


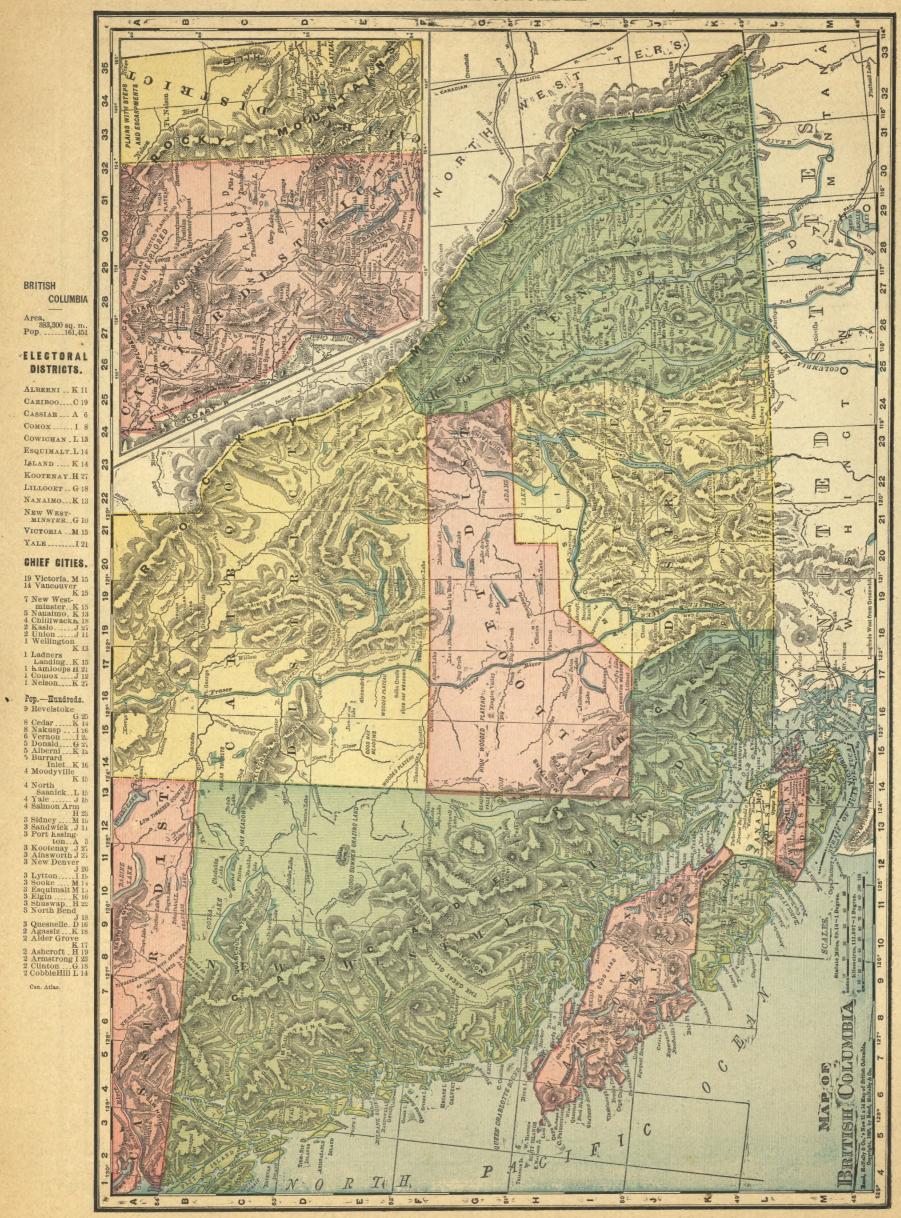












EXECUTIVE POWER.—A lieutenant-governor, appointed for five years by the governor-general of Canada in council and assisted by a small executive council. The system is now practically responsible government in the old

provinces.

LEGISLATIVE POWER AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—An assembly of 26 members, chosen by ballot on a very liberal franchise based on residence and household qualification. It elects its own speaker, has a duration of four years, unless sooner dissolved, and meets once every year. Members do not require a property qualification, and are paid a small indemnity. The legislative powers are defined by a dominion act, and are, as nearly as practicable, those of provincial assemblies. Municipal institutions have been established in towns and rural districts.

INTERESTING INFORMATION RELATIVE TO WESTERN CANADA.

Manitoba.

The province in area is about 300 miles from east to west, and extends northerly from the 49th parallel, embracing 73,956 square miles or some 47,331,840 acres. In other words, it is nearly as large as England and Scotland com-bined. Deducting say, 10,000,000 acres for water areas, town sites, and broken lands, there is left 37,000,000 acres town sites, and broken lands, there is left 37,000,000 acres for active farm cultivation, or homes for 116,000 families, on 320 acres, which is considered a large property for a well-to-do farmer. There are many families doing well on half that area, 160 acres, while a few of the wealthier hold more. A snug living and money to the good can be made on a smaller farm, where the family is not unusually large. As there are so far but 27,000 actual farmers in the province, it will seem there is ample room for many more. ince, it will seem there is ample room for many more.

Growth and Population.

Comparatively nothing was known of the agricultural capabilities of the country before 1870, when it was detached from Rupert's land ("The Great Lone Land") under Hudson's Bay Company rule, and created a province by an act of the Canadian Parliament. Previous to that time (1870) Manitoba was known only as a fur-bearing country, inhabited by Indians and half-breeds. At that time the population numbered about 10,000 souls, not more than population numbered about 10,000 souls, not more than 1,000 of whom were whites, and they, for the most part, employes of the Hudson Bay Company. In 1881 the population had increased to 65,000, and at present is about 275,000. When its wonderful capabilities are known to the thousands of people in the crowded portions of the old countries and the non-productive sections of the United

to the thousands of people in the crowded portions of the old countries and the non-productive sections of the United States, the increase will be more rapid than ever.

In 1871 the school population was 817, and now it is 50,093. In 1883 the average attendance was 5,064, and now it is 23,247. In 1883 there were 246 teachers in the province, and the number is now 1,143, about one-half males, and there appears to be no scarcity, as 1,017 new certificates were granted during the past year. These figures show, on the average, one teacher for every 240 people, and for every 33 children. The entire value of the school properties of the country is now \$750,351, or nearly \$3 per head of the entire population, a condition of things to be envied by many an older country. The average salary paid to teachers in rural districts is \$368 a year, and the highest, in cities, \$1,800. In addition to the teachers being all well certificated, the schools are inspected at intervals by competent teachers to see that the most approved methods are fully observed.

are fully observed.

Snowfall.

The average snowfall of Manitoba is sixty-two inches. It is not a country of deep snows — in short, railway trains are rarely blocked and seldom delayed by winter storms.

Water and Fuel.

These are also very important considerations for the settler. The country is everywhere at easy distances intersected by rivers and creeks, and many lakes of varying dimensions exist, especially in the northern portion of the province. Water can be secured almost anywhere by sinking wells of a moderate depth. Some of the creeks and rivers are well stocked with fish and wild fowl.

Cities and Towns.

Manitoba is divided into districts for judicial purposes. Winnipeg, a thriving well-built city, is the capital of the province. It is situated at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers, both of which are navigable by steamboats. Railway lines radiate in all directions. The city was formerly known as Fort Garry, and has been for many years the most important part of the Hudson's Bay Company, which has very extensive establishments here. In 1871 the inhabitants numbered 241; in 1881, 7,985; in 1885, 20,238, and in 1891, 25,639; the population now is estimated at 35,000. The judicial business for the eastern district of the province is transacted at Winniper.

district of the province is transacted at Winnipeg.

Brandon is the second city to Winnipeg in size and importance. Population in 1891, 3,778; now estimated at over 5,000. It is situated in one of the finest agricultural districts in Manitoba, is an important railroad center, and

districts in Manitoba, is an important railroad center, and the largest grain market in the province. It has a number of elevators, which have a combined capacity of over 300,000 bushels. The judicial business for the western district is transacted at Brandon.

At Portage la Prairie, fifty-six miles from Winnipeg, the judicial business of the central district is transacted. It is an important town and in the center of the great Portage Plains on which some of the best wheat of Western Canada is grown as well as the yields being very large. Canada is grown, as, well as the yields being very large, It is situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific at

the junction of the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway. The "Dauphin Railway" also has its junction at this point. Population, 3,863.

There are various other towns throughout the province at each of which are built large elevators for handling of the immense crops of wheat grown in their neighborhood.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

That portion of the Canadian Northwest drained by the stream emptying into Hudson's Bay was granted to the company of that name by its first charter of 1670. After the amalgamation of the Hudson's Bay and Northwest Fur companies, they got a license to hold for twenty-one years the trade monopoly of the vast regions west and northwest of the grant to the older organization. In 1838, the latter got a new license for itself for twenty-one years, which was not renewed when it expired in 1859. During 1869-70, the Northwest and also the original Hudson's Bay Company's grant were transferred to the Dominion, the British government paying the company \$1,500,000 for its rights government paying the company \$1,500,000 for its rights. In 1882, a large portion of the northwest region was divided into four districts: Assiniboia, the most populous, has an area of 89,535 square miles; Saskatchewan of 107,092; Alberta of 106,100, and Athabasca of 104,500.

The principal industries are agriculture and stock-raising. The more hardy cereals can be cultivated far north of the Saskatchewan, and this country is now rapidly being filled up with farmers and stock-raisers. Of the agricultural areas in the Northwest Territories this has agricultural areas in the Northwest Territories this has been said: "About 120,000 square miles consist of prairie lands, with occasional scattered groves and belts of trees along the rivers, admirably adapted for agriculture; a larger tract consisting chiefly of timbered land, but interspersed with prairies and well fitted for settlement and farming operations, may be estimated to cover little short of 500 000 square miles. Beyond these two available regions of land, adapted by soil and climate for the growth of wheat and other grains and the rearing of stock, there is a further belt of land, which is timbered, clothed with good natural grasses, and as fit for the growth of barley and oats as are many of the regions of Northern Europe which support a considerable agricultural population. The northern belt of timbered land is estimated at little less than 930,000 square miles. All this, as well as much more still uncleared within the various provinces, has to be settled and brought under cultivation; and out of the be settled and brought under cultivation; and out of the great prairie and forest lands of the Northwest are now being fashioned the future western provinces of the Dominion of Canada."

With the exception of the St. Lawrence, the principal rivers of the Dominion are in the territories and in Mani-toba. It is estimated that there are 10,000 miles of navigable waters in the former, emptying into Hudson Bay, the Arctic Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean. The Canadian Pacific traverses the entire country and has three important branches—one extending north from Regina to Prince Albert, another from Edmonton via Calgary to Macleod, and a third which enters the territory from Manitoba and extends porthwest to a junction with the resisting to the content of the content extends northwest to a junction with the main line near Regina. The Alberta and Great Falls & Canada railways regina. The Alberta and Great Falls & Canada railways connect the territorial roads with the railway systems of the United States. The Crow Nest Railway, now about completed, will create a rapid development of the district lying to the south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific. The outlying settlements are connected with the

Pacific. The outlying settlements are connected with the railroads by stage-coach lines.

Regina, the capital of the territories, is in Assiniboia District, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific. Its population is about 2,200. Calgary, 484 miles west, is a most important town between Brandon, Man., and Vancouver, B. C. It is beautifully situated, is the center of trade of the stock-raising section, and is the point where most of the supplies consumed in the mining districts in the mountains are purchased. The population is 3,876. The town of Edmonton has made most rapid progress, and is the center of a progressive agricultural and mining district, having about 4,000 of a population.

ASSINIBOIA.

The District of Assinibota lies between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, and extends north from the international boundary to the 52d parallel of latitude, and contains an area of 34,000,000 acres. It has a length of about 450 miles east and west by about 205 miles north and south. Traveling westward on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the district is entered at a point 212 miles west of Winnipeg. It is divided into two great areas — Eastern and Western Assiniboia — each of which has its own peculiar characteristics the former being essen areas — Eastern and Western Assinibola — each of Which has its own peculiar characteristics, the former being essentially a wheat-growing and mixed farming country, and the western part of the latter especially adapted for ranching. In both, minerals are found, and on the bars of the south branch of the Saskatchewan River in Western Assinibola gold mining is profitably carried on gold mining is profitably carried on.

The main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway extends

from east to west almost through the center of Assiniboia. and branch lines of this road extend from Moose Jaw to the southeast corner of the district and from Regina to the north through the central portion. The Manitoba & North-western Railway also extends into the northeastern portion of the district from Manitoba, and present requirements in the way of transportation are thus well provided for.

ALBERTA.

The District of Alberta has a total length from north to south of some 430 miles, and an average width from east to west of about 250 miles, and contains an area of 106,100 square miles.

Alberta comprises within its limits two divisions, showing marked distinctions in topographical and climatic conditions. The southern half is an open, rolling country devoid of timber, except along the streams and in the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains, while the northern half is more or less timbered throughout, the belts of timber being broken here and there by prairie openings, some of which are of considerable extent.

Both Northern and Southern Alberta have their special advantages fully set out in the pamphlets issued by the Canadian Government, which may be had free on appli-

cation.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Saskatchewan, lying north of Assinibola, is the largest of the four provisional districts which were carved out of the territories by the Dominion Parliament in 1882. Its area is 106,700 square miles. In shape it is an oblong parallelogram. It is almost centrally divided by the main Saskatchewan River, which is altogether within the district, and by its principal branch, the North Saskatchewan most of whose navigable length lies within its boundaries. It includes in the south a small proportion of the great plains, and in its general superficial features may be described as a mixed prairie and wooded region, abounding in water and natural hay, and well suited by climate and soil for the raising of wheat, horned cattle, and sheep. Settlement is at present chiefly in the Prince Albert, Rosstherne, Duck Lake, Shell River, Batoche, Stony Creek, Carlton, Carrott River, Birch Hills, The Forks, St Laurent, St. Louis de Langevin, and the Battleford districts, in neafly all of which there is a great quantity of the best land open for selection free to homesteaders. In great measure that which may be said of one district applies equally to others. The crops consist of wheat, oais, barley, and potatoes. Turnips and all kinds of vegetables are raised successfully. Normal yield of wheat (red Fife) about 30 bushels to the acre in favorable seasons, 1 to 1½ bushels sown to the acre. Barley has not been grown extensively, there being no demand for any quantity of this cereal in this district, but it has always given a good yield in favorable seasons. There has never been a failure of crops, and settlers enjoy a steady home market at which they realize good prices for their products. The district is well supplied with good roads, and they are kept open winter and summer. Wild fruits of nearly every variety—strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry, blueberry, high-bush cranberry, black currants, etc.—grow in profusion, and small game is plentiful.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The chief industries of British Columbia are mining, fishing, lumbering, and agriculture, the first two of these being at present the chief sources of the wealth of the country. There are extensive coal mines, whence large quantities of a high grade are taken. In 1896, 894,882 tons were mined. The second most important mineral is gold, first discovered in 1857, near Nicoamen Island in Thompson River The total value of the gold product, since 1858, has been \$57,704,855. Silver, iron, and copper are also mined, the latter being widely distributed. Cinnabar and platinum have been found in small quantities. At this time British Columbia has 1,838 vessels and boats, and 8,223 men engaged in the fish industry. In 1894, 1,375 men, and fifty-three vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 3,498 tons, were employed in the seal fishery. The catch being 94,474 seals. The rivers of British Columbia swarm with salmon. There are sixty-two canneries in operation, the output for the last year reported being 48,000,000 one-pound cans. The total value of the yield of all the fisheries, in 1896, was \$4,314,857, and since 1876, \$45,912,686.

A large portion of the province is densely wooded, much The chief industries of British Columbia are mining,

A large portion of the province is densely wooded, much A large portion of the province is densely wooded, much of it with trees which furnish timber of fine quality. The mammoth Douglas fir, notable for its strength and straightness, is here found in large quantities. The red cedar is often found 200 feet in height, with a diameter of twenty feet. The yearly shipments of lumber are very large, but, considering the immense forest wealth of British Columbia, the lumbering husiness is as yet only in its intency.

feet. The yearly shipments of lumber are very large, but, considering the immense forest wealth of British Columbia, the lumbering business is as yet only in its infancy.

It is estimated that there are 250,000 square miles of land suitable for agricultural purposes. The soil is generally rich, and the climate mild. As yet, however, comparatively little attention has been paid to farming, and agricultural products cut no figure in the exports. The fur trade is still an important one, the skins exported being otter, mink, marten, bear, beaver, and silver fox as well as seal. The value of the total exports in 1897 was \$14,184,708. Of this sum more than four-fifths was the products of the mines and fisheries. The value of the exports of the mines equaled \$8,909,592, and those of the fisheries, \$3,567,815.

The Canadian Pacific Railway gives the province a direct route to the East. Its western terminus is at Vancouver. A branch line, recently completed, connects with the railway system of the United States. A short line connects Victoria with the rich coal fields of Nanaimo, and with the naval station at Esquimault. The Dominion government has subsidized a steamship line running to China and Japan, and there a large portion of the Eastern Asiatic trade is being diverted to the Canadian route.

The total population of British Columbia, by the census of 1891, was 97,612. The schools are undenominational, and are entirely supported by the government. According to the latest reports, there were 110 schools, with 6,796 pupils enrolled and an average attendance of 3,681. The total annual expenditure was \$137,163. When new school districts become necessary, the lieutenant-governor is authorized to organize them.

districts become necessary, the lieutenant-governor is authorized to organize them.

authorized to organize them.

Victoria, the capital of the province, is beautifully situated on a fine harbor at the southern extremity of Vancouver Island. It has many handsome public and private buildings, and a number of large commercial houses, which carry on an extensive trade. The population is 16,841, an increase of 11,000 over 1881. Vancouver, which had no inhabitants in 1881, but by census of 1891 was 13,709, is a flourishing city, with many miles of well-made streets,

lighted by gas and electricity. It has extensive wharves and numerous warehouses, and is the center of the lumber industry. The annual output of its mills is valued at 42,500,000.

New Westminster, a flourishing town with 6,678 inhab-New Westminster, a nourishing town with 5,048 linked-itants, is in the center of the largest and most productive agricultural district of the province; and Nanaimo, with a population of 4,595, is a thriving coal-mining town and port on the east coast of Vancouver Island.

Besides these a number of towns in the mining districts have recently come into existence, and they are developing in keeping with the industries surrounding them.

AVERAGE CROPS. Results for the Past Three Years in Western Canada.

(Government Bulletin No. 29,)

The results of experimental tests of varieties of grain to gain information, as to their relative productiveness and usefulness, are much more reliable as a guide to the selection of the best sorts when the average experience of several years can be given. For the last three years a similar series of test plots to those reported in this bulletin has been conducted under conditions as nearly uniform as it has been possible to secure. The average of the crops obtained are herewith presented.

Of the twelve varieties of oats which averaged the heavi-Of the twelve varieties of oats which averaged the heaviest crops at the experimental farms of Western Canada, during the past three years, the highest at the Brandon (Manitoba) farm was "Banner," which yielded 86 bushels 16 pounds per acre; the lowest being "Columbus," yielding 68 bushels 11 pounds per acre. The average yield at this farm was 75 bushels 20 pounds per acre.

At the farm at Indian Head (Assinibola), "Columbus" (the highest) yielded 92 bushels and 19 pounds per acre; "American Triumph" (the lowest) yielded 80 bushels 27 pounds. The average yield was 85 bushels 28 pounds per acre.

Two-Rowed Barley.

Of the six varieties of two-rowed barley which averaged the heaviest crops, during the past three years, the highest, at the Brandon farm, was "French Chevalier," 48 bushels 46 pounds per acre; the lowest, "Beaver," 37 bushels 37 pounds. Average, 42 bushels 31 pounds per acre.

At the Indian Head farm "French Chevalier" was first, with 60 bushels 23 pounds per acre; and "Prize Prolific" lowest, with 53 bushels 33 pounds per acre. The average of the six varieties was 56 bushels 26 pounds per acre.

Six-Rowed Barley.

Of six varieties showing highest yield, at the Brandon farm, "Mensury," with 54 bushels 11 pounds per acre, was the highest; "Summit," 46 bushels 15 pounds, the lowest, the average being 51 bushels 1 pound per acre.

Six varieties at the Indian Head Farm showed "Rennie's Improved" to stand first, with 61 bushels 45 pounds; "Trooper" being lowest of the six, with 57 bushels 1 pound per acre. The average was 60 bushels 6 pounds per acre.

Considerable interest is always manifested in wheat averages. For the three years the highest of twelve spring varieties grown at the Brandon farm was "White Fife," having 38 bushels 47 pounds; the lowest of the twelve varieties being "White Russian," with 32 bushels 50 pounds. The average of all varieties was 35 bushels 28 tounds.

At Indian Head the result for twelve varieties showed that "Huron" headed the list with 44 bushels 20 pounds; "Harrison Bearded" being the lowest, with 40 bushels 40 pounds, The average of all was 41 bushels 41 pounds per

Potators.

At Brandon "Pierce's Extra Early" was first in twelve varieties on the three years' test, yielding 383 bushels 47 pounds per acre; the lowest being "Early White Prize," with its yield of 312 bushels 57 pounds. The average was 343 bushels 50 pounds per acre.

"Lee's Favorite" at the Indian Head farm, on the three years' test, stood first of the twelve varieties, having to its credit 350 bushels 36 pounds; the lowest being "Late Puritan," with 267 bushels 36 pounds. The average yield was 300 bushels 15 pounds per acre.

The above are compiled from the report of the Government Experimental Stations, and the figures given, although phenomenally large, may be accepted as strictly correct. The figures show the results for three years, and it is not too much to say that no other country in the world can show averages approaching the yield of wheat, oats, barley, and potatoes.

COST OF CULTIVATION.

At a meeting of a Farmers' Institute, recently held at Portage la Prairie, the question of the cost of producing an acre of wheat was discussed. Mr. Sirrett, a prominent farmer, and a member of the Manitoba legislature, gave the following figures:

Plowing	\$1.50
Harrowing three times	
Drilling	20
Rolling.	10
Seed wheat, 11/2 bushels	
Cutting, twine, and stooking.	7(
Carried forward	83.80

Brought forward	\$3.85
Stacking	
Threshing	1.00
Marketing	
, Total	\$5.85
Interest on investment and depreciation	of imple-
ments and stock	
Rent	1.50
	\$8.85

"This estimate is sufficient to pay for thorough work," added Mr. Sirrett, "and if applied will insure a crop of 18 bushels per acre at least, with a possible yield of 28 on good wheat land, according to season. At an average cost of 38 cents per acre on summer fallow, the cost would be \$10.20, yield 35 bushels, or at a cost of 32 cents per bushel."

Mr. Treleaven of Portage la Prairie, presented the following estimate, a little in excess of the above, yet showing that there is profit in raising wheat in this country, if the season is favorable and the yield an average one:

Discripe	Per acre.
Plowing	
Cutting and stooking	
Twine	
Threshing	1.50
Drawing to market	
Seed	
	\$6.30

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION.

Does farming pay? In reply to this crucial question the under-noted figures give the average results of seven and three-quarter years' farming.

	Value on taking pos- session.	Value in 1897.
Land	- \$ 664	\$1,964
Buildings	_ 34	478
Fences	_ 7	141
Implements	_ 55	404
Produce on hand		178
Live stock of all kinds	254	988
	\$1,029	\$4,103 1,029

Gain in seven and three-quarter years . Being an average increase of nearly \$400 a year.

Homestead Regulations, Etc.

The homestead regulations of Manitoba and the North-The homestead regulations of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories enable a settler over eighteen years of age to enter for 160 acres of free land, and, after three years, upon the fulfillment of the conditions of settlement, patent therefor is issued by the Crown and the settler thus becomes the absolute owner of his land. The only cost to him is from \$10 to \$15 in the way of registration fees. Full particulars may be obtained by writing to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. In addition to the free grant above referred to thousands of acres of land can be purchased at a low rate from railway and land

the free grant above referred to thousands of acres of land can be purchased at a low rate from railway and land corporations as well as from private firms.

The Canadian Government Agents, who have been appointed at different points in the United States, will furnish an intending settler with a certificate which, on presentation to the Ticket Agent at the nearest station on the Canadian Pacific Railway, entitles him to a reduced rate to point of destination. Full particulars regarding this can also be obtained from the Secretary of the Depart this can also be obtained from the Secretary of the Department of the Interior. Ottawa, or any of the Canadian Government Agents in the United States.

The customs laws of Canada provide that settlers' effects, which have been the property of the settler for one year, will be admitted free of duty.

Many of the household necessaries which the emigrant possesses he might do well to bring and they may prove

possesses he might do well to bring, and they may prove

very useful; but still it is advisable to consider well the

weight and bulk, and how far it is worth while,
Articles of household furniture, crockery, stoves, or
heavy articles of hardware should be left behind or sold,

heavy articles of hardware should be left behind or sold, except in some circumstances for special reasons which the colonist will consider. It must be borne in mind that such articles are very liable to breakage, especially on long railway journeys to the West.

Agricultural laborers should not bring any of their tools with them as these can be easily go. in Canada, of the best kinds, and suited to the needs of the country. Generally speaking, the farming tools used in England would not be suitable for Canada.

Mechanics and artisans, when they have been encouraged to come out, may of course bring their tools; but they must bear in mind that there is no difficulty in buying any ordinary tools in Canada at reasonable prices, and that it is better to have the means of purchasing what they want after reaching their destination, than to be hampered with a heavy lot of luggage on their journey causing them trouble and expense.

trouble and expense.

In the case of settlers from the United States, they can secure a car at very low rates, or a car can be hired by one or more settlers, in which case it is better to take along your stock if you own them, but do not buy, as stock of all kinds can be had at reasonable prices, and they can be purchased on arrival. Machinery unsuited for farming in Western Canada should not be brought, but the settler should first of all bring his bedding and clothing.

It is difficult to lay down a hard and fast rule as to the amount of capital necessary to start farming. The answer

It is difficult to lay down a hard and fast rule as to the amount of capital necessary to start farming. The answer depends upon the energy, experience, judgment, and enterprise of the person who is to spend the money, the province selected, whether free grant land is to be taken up or an improved farm rented or purchased, and many other details. It may safely be said, however, that if a man has about 100 pounds sterling, or \$500 clear, on reaching the country, he is in a position to make a fair beginning on free grant land, though not on a large scale. It should be remembered, however, that numbers of prosperous men have begun life on the prairies with barely enough to take them there. They have in many cases made their way by working as hired men, at seeding and harvesting time, while during other months of the year they performed the statutory and necessary work on free homesteads they had acquired from the government. Many of the most successful have been farm laborers in the old country. Some capital is, of course, necessary if an improved farm Some capital is, of course, necessary if an improved farm is to be taken.

FURTHER INFORMATION

As to the advantages offered by Western Canada can be had by writing the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada, and thus securing a set of pamphlets issued by the government or by addressing any of the following:

Frank Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa.
W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration, Winnings, Man.

Frank Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

The High Commissioner for Canada, 17 Victoria Street, London, S. W., England.

Canadian Government Office, Liverpool.

James Kirk, Halifax; H. M. Murray, 52 St. Enoch Square, Glasgow, Scotland; P. Doyle, Quebec; J. Hoolahan, Montreal; S. Gardner, St. John, N. B; M. V. McInnes, No. 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich., U. S.; D. L. Caven, Bad Axe, Mich., U. S.; James Grieve, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., U. S.; J. S. Crawford, 102 West Ninth Street, Kansas City, Mo., U. S.; Benjamin Davies, 154 East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn, U. S.; T. O. Currie, Stevens Point, Wis., U. S.; C. J. Broughton, 1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill., U. S.; W. V. Bennett, 801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Neb., U. S.; W. H. Rogers, Watertown, S. Dak., U. S.; Alfred S. Rollo, Leuark Hotel, Boise City, Idaho, U. S.; N. Barthelomew, 306 Fifth Street, Des Moines, Iowa, U. S.; J. H. M. Parker, 502 Palladio Building, Duluth, Minn., U. S.; William Ritchie Grafton, N. Dak., U. S.

AREA AND POPULATION.

Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland, etc.

Provinces, Districts, Territories.	ENTERED CONFEDERATION OR ORGANIZED.	SQUARE MILES.			Por
		LAND.	WATER:	TOTAL.	CENSUS'91
Manitoba Province	Entered Confederation 1870 Organized	65,000 101,4±0 89,650	9,000 7,000 550	74,000 108,400 90,200	152,500
Athabasea District Alberta District Alberta District	Organized 1882 Organized 1882	859,600 108,300 105,850	46,400 1,200 250	906,000 104,500 106,100	98,967
British Columbia ProvinceOntario Province	Entered Confederation 1871 Entered Confederation 1867 Entered Confederation 1867	382,300 219,650 28,100	1,000 2,350 100	383,300 222,000 28,200	98,178 2,114,321 321,263
Nova Scotia Province	Entered Confederation 1867 Entered Confederation 1878 Entered Confederation 1867	20,550 . 2,000 227,500	1,400	20,600 2,000 228,900	450,396 109,078 1,488,535
	Organized	352,300 300,000 267,000	5,700 15,000	358,000 300,000 282,000	Unknown Unknown Unknown
Perritory east of Keewatin and south of H Great Lakes and River St. Lawrence east within United States, not included in	to Long. 66°, and portions	194,800	2,500 47,400	196,800 47,400	Unknowi
Labrador*		8,318,500	139,900	3,458,400 40,000	4,883,239
Newfoundland, French shore from Cape I	tay to Cape St. John, say			8 541 184	187,41 10,000 5 084 656

NOTE.—The population of the Dominion of Canada, exclusive of Labrador and Newfoundland, is estimated to be now 5,400,000. The question of the boundary between Canada and Alaska is undecided. The boundary lines shown on maps are as claimed by United States.